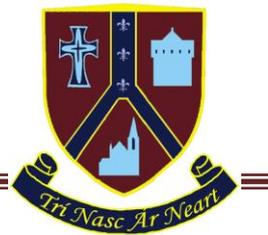


# St. Mary's Parish Primary School

Bryanstown, Drogheda, Co. Louth, A92 DP86.

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Príomhoide – Philip Ward • Leas Phríomhoide – John Weir • Roll No.: 20205G

19<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As the first term draws to a close I wish you all a very happy Christmas. Our pupils have put in a great terms work and deserve anything Fr. Christmas may bring.

Best wishes to Rosemarie Hoey who retires on Friday. Rosemarie joined the staff of Scoil Mhuire Fatima in 1992 and in the years since has made an enormous contribution to both schools and to the pupils in her care. We wish her every happiness in the years ahead.

*Congratulations to all involved in the Christmas Shows.* Fifth Classes will have their show tonight at 7.30pm. Pupils are to arrive between 6.50 & 7.10pm dressed ready for the part. €2 will be collected on the night to cover costs for the show. Ms. McCormick's, Ms. Clerkin's and Ms. Butler's Junior Infant classes will have their show on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> at 1.10pm.

**On Friday it is a non-uniform day, pupils may wear red/green/white or a santa jumper.**

There are still some Folens Christmas Annuals available in the office if you wish to purchase. Payments are made by electronic transfer.

The **Sensory Room** has been completed and is now ready for use. Thank you for your financial support for this very worthwhile project and I wish to thank the following sponsors: AIM International, Mullens Coaches, All Pets Veterinary Hospital, CRH Group Services, Drogheda Credit Union, Bon Secours Hospital, Bryanstown Pharmacy and the effort of all the pupils to get sponsorship for the Run Around Ireland. We will have an official opening ceremony in the new year.

**School closes at 12 noon on Friday for the Christmas holidays and re-opens Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.**

On a personal level I wish to inform you that I intend to retire early in the New Year and will be on leave from Christmas due to family commitments. Mr Weir will take over as acting principal, pending the appointment of the new principal. As I leave I would like to thank you all for the great support you have given the work of the school since we opened in 2012, especially your support for our new extension and sensory room which was installed last week. In the last five years the school has gone from strength to strength with our pupils achieving very well academically and in so many other school related activities. Visitors to our school regularly comment on the courtesy and welcome they receive from the children in the various classes and the pupils are regularly praised for their exemplary behaviour as they leave the school to represent us in activities such as soccer, Gaelic football, spike ball, athletics and choral events. These achievements would not be possible without the enthusiasm and leadership provided by teachers and SNAs and I thank all the staff including ancillary staff for their efforts over the last 5 years to make SMPPS such a welcoming place. The pupils are a testament to the homes they come from and we are proud of them. A special thanks to the members of the Parents Association who have supported the school in so many ways. The Board of management in the background under the leadership of Anne Phillips has done so much to ensure that our facilities are second to none and has supported the work of staff in every way possible. In all this is a school community to be proud of and I wish you every success in the years ahead.

Rath Dé oraibh go léir.

Philip